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Public Health Reports

Treasury Department, United States Marine-Hospital Service. Published in accordance with act of Congress approved February 15, 1893.

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UNITED STATES.

[Reports to the Supervising Surgeon-General United States Marine-Hospital Service.]

Yellow fever in the South.

September 16: Surgeon Murray is informed that the official name of the detention camp at Fontainebleau, Miss., is "Camp Fontainebleau."

Passed Assistant Surgeon Wertenbaker, at Delaware Breakwater, is directed to ship as soon as possible camp equipage by fast freight to Waycross, Ga., care of Superintendent G. W. Haines.

Passed Assistant Surgeon Young, at Memphis, is directed to forward 100 tents instead of 75 to Jackson, Miss.

The mayor of Jackson, Miss., is informed that Passed Assistant Surgeon Geddings has left Washington for Jackson for the purpose of establishing a camp by request of the State health authorities, with directions to confer with Dr. Purnell. Doctors Hunter and Kiger, at Vicksburg, are informed that 100 tents have been sent from St. Louis to Jackson this date, the 16th, via Memphis; also that Geddings has left Washington for the same city. They are requested to notify Dr. Purnell and arrange a conference with Geddings concerning the site of the camp.

State Health Officer Porter, of Florida, is informed that the mails and express matter are being disinfected, freight not yet begun; that Glennan has removed to Mobile from Grand Bay, Ala., to start train inspection service; medical inspectors placed on each train leaving Mobile; Carter has commenced the same at New Orleans.

State Health Officer Sanders, Alabama, is informed that material has

been ordered to be shipped to Waycross, Ga., preparatory to establishing a camp if matters should grow worse in Mobile; also that train inspection service has been established from Mobile and New Orleans to the borders of Georgia, Tennessee, Arkansas, and Texas, and that in case of necessity hospital cars would be attached to each train in Mobile, to be side tracked at designated points.

September 17: The following notice of assignments is issued: Surgeon Murray in charge of Service matters in Mississippi, south of but not including Jackson and Vicksburg; Surgeon Sawtelle, on duty at Atlanta, in charge of Service matters for Georgia; Surgeon Carter, same for New Orleans and Louisiana; Passed Assistant Surgeon Glennan, at Mobile, in charge of Alabama, and prepared to establish a detention camp near Mobile; Passed Assistant Surgeon Geddings at Jackson, Miss., in charge of northern Mississippi, ready to establish a detention camp near Edwards; Passed Assistant Surgeon Young, at Memphis, to aid the Mississippi River inspection, and to cooperate with the local authorities. Each officer is directed to wire daily reports of cases and deaths at points in his district.

Passed Assistant Surgeon Young, at Memphis, is ordered to employ a physician to begin a supplemental inspection of boats going up the river at a point below Memphis, and to arrange for the care and isolation of suspicious cases.

Passed Assistant Surgeon Kalloch telegraphs that there are two suspicious cases in the marine hospital at Cairo, admitted from a Government dredge. He is ordered to take every precaution to prevent the spread of the contagion, and Acting Assistant Surgeon John Guit  ras is directed to proceed to Cairo to examine these cases.

Surgeon Carter reports from New Orleans that the board of health is disinfecting the mail from infected houses with formalin.

Surgeon Sawtelle reports from Atlanta that the railroad authorities agree to sell no tickets to persons coming from infected places, or seeking to go to points south of Atlanta, and that medical inspection of trains from the south was instituted by the board of health on the 16th. Atlanta and West Point trains were inspected 40 miles from the city; Southern Railroad trains from Birmingham, 20 miles from the city; suspicious cases to be put off 4 miles out and cared for in detention camp. The coaches bound south from Atlanta and Montgomery fumigated before departure. New Orleans and New York Pullmans fumigated in Jersey City. Many persons were reported passing through Atlanta for northern points. There were 500 refugees in Atlanta, the health authorities aiding them to reach northern points by giving them health certificates after examination.

Passed Assistant Surgeon White, from Camp Fontainebleau, reports persons in vicinity of camp suffering for food, being cut off from market and from their business on account of the quarantine. He was author-

ized to make such purchases from them as were necessary for the camp and admit them to it.

It is suggested by Dr. Glennan that Mount Vernon Barracks would be desirable as a detention camp, and he is ordered to inspect if necessary. He reported that Governor Johnston had authorized the use of Mount Vernon Barracks.

Acting Assistant Surgeon John Guitéras reports 1 case of yellow fever at marine hospital in Mobile, isolated and cared for in a tent.

Passed Assistant Surgeon Smith, Gulf Quarantine, reports his belief that the man sent from the tug *Leo* is convalescent from yellow fever; that he was sick aboard for nine days while the tug was engaged in the usual work among the shipping, and forbidden to go ashore. The tug had been lying part of the time at the wharf in Scranton. Another tug hand went home sick before this man was taken sick. Probable origin of disease, Scranton. The health officer at Scranton was advised that the *Leo* should be disinfected and the crew observed.

Surgeon Sawtelle, from Atlanta, reports the arrival on the 17th of 300 refugees, and 250 as having left for the north with health certificates, leaving about 500 in the city. Those desiring health certificates are requested to register on arrival in order to save time.

Surgeon Murray reports that 40 persons will be received in Camp Fontainebleau to-morrow, the 19th; 10 from Scranton, 10 from Ocean Springs, and 20 from Biloxi.

September 19: Acting Assistant Surgeon Guitéras, having confirmed the diagnosis of yellow fever at Cairo, and reported that one of the dredges was at East Cairo, Kalloch is ordered to quarantine the dredge, and wire full information.

Dr. Lindsley, secretary, reports that at a called meeting of the Tennessee board of health on the 18th, quarantine was ordered against the entire State of Mississippi, including all persons and baggage, to go into effect on the 20th; also that inspectors had been appointed at Memphis, Grand Junction, Raymer, State Line, Chattanooga, Cleveland, and Ducktown, and that they had been ordered to cooperate with the Marine-Hospital Service. Passed Assistant Surgeon Young was ordered to instruct them.

Surgeon Carter is directed to appoint two inspectors on the Alabama and Vicksburg Railroad.

Surgeon Sawtelle reports 75 refugees as having arrived in Atlanta on the 18th, 1 suspicious case detained at camp four miles out of city—a man from Mobile who had nursed a fatal case of yellow fever in that city.

Passed Assistant Surgeon Geddings reports his arrival at Jackson, and that he will confer with Dr. Hunter, secretary, and other members of the State board of health before going to Edwards, and that the camp equipage had arrived at Jackson.

Passed Assistant Surgeon White reports 13 stragglers admitted to

Camp Fontainebleau during the last six days, 42 as regularly admitted to-day; will admit those from Mobile to-morrow. Murray giving tickets. Camp is laid out with 200 guest tents, and 100 more can be added when received. Each tent holds 4 persons, or 5 on a pinch. Can care daily for 150 persons during the next three days, and after that, 800 daily.

September 20: Passed Assistant Surgeon Magruder is directed, on the arrival of Passed Assistant Surgeon Bratton at Sabine Pass, Tex., to proceed to Galveston and await orders.

Passed Assistant Surgeon White, at Fontainebleau, is authorized to purchase formaldehyd generator for the purpose of disinfection.

Dr. Lindsley is informed that the marine hospital officers at Memphis, New Orleans, and Mobile have been directed to cooperate with the State inspectors.

Surgeon Carter, at New Orleans, is directed to arrange with the Mississippi board so as to remove the embargo on disinfected mails from New Orleans.

Acting Assistant Surgeon Guit  ras, at Cairo, is directed to proceed to Point Pleasant, and have special measures taken regarding the dredge *Gamma*; authorized to employ local physician to carry out necessary measures to prevent spread, and to return to Cairo after completion of work.

Passed Assistant Surgeon Kalloch, at Cairo, is directed to put the dredge *Alpha* in strict quarantine, and prevent escape of the crew except to a place of detention, which he was authorized to establish immediately under strong guard. Employment of physician and necessary guards authorized.

Surgeon Wheeler, at Cincinnati, is directed to proceed to St. Louis for temporary duty, relieving Passed Assistant Surgeon Cobb.

Passed Assistant Surgeon Cobb is directed, on being relieved, to report to Passed Assistant Surgeon Kalloch at Cairo to assist in preventive measures.

In reply to the secretary of the State board of health of Missouri, as to what measures should be taken to prevent spread of yellow fever, he is recommended to take the same course in St. Louis as was taken in 1878. It is suggested that he look after Point Pleasant with reference to the dredge boats, and assist the marine hospital officers.

Passed Assistant Surgeon Geddings, Jackson, Miss., is informed that a formol boiler with chemicals had been ordered sent to him from New York.

September 21: Surgeon Wheeler, St. Louis, is directed to isolate all patients from boat *Alpha*, or other suspects, and to make further report.

Passed Assistant Surgeon Geddings, at Jackson, Miss., is directed to consult by wire Dr. Gully concerning the employment of train inspectors from meridian north and east to State line, making connecting links

between inspectors from New Orleans, and with inspectors at State lines of Georgia and Tennessee.

The following telegram is sent Dr. Sanders, State health officer of Alabama :

"Am informed by Postmaster-General of great restrictions placed on mails at Montgomery, coming from both north and south. All mails passing in either direction are now fumigated by postal authorities. Mail cars passing through Montgomery without stopping, by order of the Postmaster-General, with doors and windows closed. As to clerks passing through Montgomery, they do not come from any infected section, simply running between Newman and Hurricane. Each clerk is obliged to wear a uniform cap of the Postal Service, with badge, and no other persons are allowed in the car. Under these circumstances no good reason for interfering with United States mails at Montgomery, which, moreover, is contrary to law. Kindly use your endeavors with local authorities to prevent this unnecessary restriction. Mississippi and Louisiana have yielded to like request."

Surgeon Sawtelle, at Atlanta, is authorized to purchase necessary furniture for the detention camp at Mount Vernon Barracks, Ala., for 250 people, on requisition of Passed Assistant Surgeon Glennan.

Assistant Surgeon Norman and Dr. Faget, at New Orleans, directed to report to Surgeon Carter for orders.

Passed Assistant Surgeon Geddings reports the acceptance of the camp equipage shipped to Edwards by Dr. Hunter. Camp to be laid out to-day.

Assistant Surgeon Decker, at St. Louis, reports that the health commissioner regards the case of fever as suspicious and proposes to remove the man to quarantine and take all precautions.

Drs. H. A. Grant and H. H. Haralson, at Biloxi, report :

"No precaution taken to prevent infection of field in Ship Island Harbor from Biloxi. Will you please take charge of this work?"

Surgeon Sawtelle, from Atlanta, reports nearly one-half the passengers on trains from the south were bound for northern points; no suspicious cases in the city. Identification and evidence required that applicants have not been in infected district for the past twenty days before health certificate is issued.

Surgeon Wheeler, from St. Louis, reports that no further developments have occurred. Precautions have been taken; symptoms do not indicate yellow fever.

Passed Assistant Surgeon White reports 80 discharged from Camp Fontainebleau; remaining, 136, and that Dr. Gill, of the Louisiana board of health, was visiting the camp.

Dr. Lindsley telegraphs: "We informed railway officers that our regulations respecting tropical fruit and freight of all kinds are simply that they obey the rules of the Marine-Hospital Service."

Dr. Glenn Andrews, at Montgomery, Ala., reports that Montgomery has no unnecessary restrictions against mails, the requirements being

that all mail from infectious points must be fumigated and brought in a clean car by clerk who has not been in an infected district for past twenty days. No restrictions on any other mail.

Passed Assistant Surgeon Kalloch, at Cairo, Ill., reports all cases doing well. *Alpha* being disinfected.

Yellow fever in the United States as reported to the Supervising Surgeon-General United States Marine-Hospital Service, to September 22, 1897.

States.	Cities.	Date.	Cases.	Deaths.
Alabama	Mobile.....	Sept. 13	1	.....
		Sept. 14	2	.....
		Sept. 17	2	2
		Sept. 18	11	.....
		Sept. 19	2	.....
		Sept. 20	1	.....
		Sept. 21	2	.....
		Sept. 22	4	.....
		Sept. 23	2	.....
		Sept. 23	*1	.....
		Sept. 23	*1	.....
Georgia.....	Atlanta.....	Sept. 23	1	.....
Illinois.....	Cairo.....	Sept. 19	2	.....
		Sept. 20	†2	1
Kentucky.....	Louisville.....	Sept. 23	*1	.....
Louisiana.....	New Orleans.....	Sept. 8	.....	1
		Sept. 12	7	.....
		Sept. 13	3	.....
		Sept. 14	5	.....
		Sept. 15	2	.....
		Sept. 16	2	.....
		Sept. 17	8	1
		Sept. 18	5	1
		Sept. 19	6	2
		Sept. 20	†18	.....
		Sept. 21	9	.....
		Sept. 22	12	2
		Sept. 23	9	3
Mississippi.....	Barkley	Sept. 13	8	4
		Sept. 14	1	.....
		Sept. 18	1	.....
	Biloxi	(?)	22	.....
		Sept. 19	.....	1
		Sept. 20	1	1
		Sept. 21	.....	1
	Edwards.....	Sept. 22	5	1
		Sept. 15	12	1
		Sept. 19	4	.....
		Sept. 20	2	.....
		Sept. 21	12	.....
		Sept. 22	13	2
	Ocean Springs.....	Sept. 23	23	.....
		Sept. 8	4	2
		Sept. 13	1	.....
		Sept. 18	2	3
	Scranton	Sept. 22	4	.....
		Sept. 23	6	.....
		Sept. 10	1	.....
		Sept. 14	1	.....
		Sept. 19	1	.....
		Sept. 20	15	.....
		Sept. 22	4	.....
Texas.....	Perkinston.....	Sept. 23	6	.....
		Sept. 10	1	.....
	Beaumont.....	Sept. 22	1	.....
		Sept. 22	1	.....

* Refugee. † On dredge boat. ‡ Nine of these cases should have been reported before.
§ To September 15.

Smallpox in Birmingham.

The following daily telegrams from County Health Officer J. W. Barclay give the progress of smallpox :

September 16: No cases to-day. September 17: No cases to-day.